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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/488,297

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09/07/2007

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EXAMINER

AKINTOLA, OLABODE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3691

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

09/07/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/488,297

Applicant(s)

KERESMAN III ET AL.

Examiner

Olabode Akintola

Art Unit

3691

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 June 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 23,24,26-36 and 38-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 23,24,26-36 and 38-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 23, 31, 36, 39, 41 and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Demoff et al (US 6456984) ("Demoff") in view of Talati et al (US 5903878) ("Talati").

Re claims 23, 31, 36, 39, 41 and 42: Demoff teaches method and corresponding system for processing a transaction carried out over a network between a financial account holder and a participating entity, said method comprising the steps of: authenticating the buyer as the financial account holder (col. 6, lines 7-10); establishing transaction fulfillment data, said transaction

fulfillment data indicating a delivery destination for the selected items, wherein establishing the transaction fulfillment data includes using a previously obtained destination as the delivery destination for the selected items when an alternate destination is not obtained (col. 4, lines 1-15, col. 5, lines 23-32); communicating the transaction fulfillment data to the participating entity (col. 5, lines 23-32); receiving transaction details from the participating entity, said transaction details including a cost for the selected items (col. 2, lines 14-15); authorizing completion of the transaction and establishing an authorization code therefor (col. 6, lines 59-63); and, communicating the authorization code for the transaction to the participating entity (col. 7, lines 22-33).

Demoff does not explicitly teach receiving a purchase request of the buyer from the seller; transmitting transaction details of the authenticated account holder directly to a funding source which determines if the account holder has one of sufficient funds or sufficient credit available to cover the cost of purchase (claim 31). Talati teaches receiving a purchase request of the buyer from the seller (Abstract, Col. 4, lines 66 – col. 7, lines 3, Fig. 1); transmitting transaction details of the authenticated account holder directly to a funding source which determines if the account holder has one of sufficient funds or sufficient credit available to cover the cost of purchase (col. 7, lines 24-44). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Demoff to include these steps as taught by Talati in order to allow the administrator to authenticate the buyer by confirming that the order originated from the purchaser and to ensure fund availability.

Claim 24 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Demoff in view of Talati as applied to claim 23 above, and further in view of Barzilai et al (US 6012045) (“Barzilai”).

Re claim 24: Demoff does not explicitly teach obtaining an alternate destination from the buyer, said alternate destination being different from the previously obtained destination; transmitting a security question to the buyer; receiving a response to the security question from the buyer; and using the alternate destination as the delivery destination of the items when the response to the security question is accurate. Barzilai teaches obtaining an alternate destination from the buyer, said alternate destination being different from the previously obtained destination; transmitting a security question to the buyer; receiving a response to the security question from the buyer; and using the alternate destination as the delivery destination of the items when the response to the security question is accurate (col. 8, lines 2-19). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Demoff to include this step as taught by Barzilai in order to confirm the validity of the buyer if the buyer seeks to provide an alternate address.

Claims 26-30 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Demoff in view of Talati as applied to claim 23 above, and further in view of Watson et al (US 6226624) (“Watson”).

Re claims 26-30 and 38: Demoff and Talati teach all the limitations of claim 26, except the step of obtaining restriction instructions from account holders. Watson teaches obtaining restriction

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instructions from account holders (Abstract, col. 16, lines 59-63, col. 7, lines 9-20). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Demoff to include this step as taught by Watson in order to minimize fraudulent or unauthorized use of the account.

Claims 32-34 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Demoff in view of Talati as applied to claim 31 above, in view of Hogan (US 6315193) ("Hogan") and further in view of Guzelsu (US 6381587) ("Guzelsu").

Re claims 32-34 and 38: Demoff and Talati do not explicitly teach obtaining settlement information from the participating entity, said settlement information including the authorization code and transaction details for the completed transaction; automatically capturing the settlement information from the participating entity upon an indication of the delivery of the selected items; and confirming that the transaction details corresponding to the authorization code received with the settlement information are within a desired tolerance.

Hogan teaches obtaining settlement information from the participating entity, said settlement information including the authorization code and transaction details for the completed transaction; automatically capturing the settlement information from the participating entity upon an indication of the delivery of the selected items (col. 5, lines 6-25). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include these steps as taught by Hogan. One would have been motivated to do so in order to ensure that the appropriate items are delivered to the buyer so that the merchant can be paid and the buyer billed accordingly.

Guzelsu teaches confirming that the transaction details corresponding to the authorization code received with the settlement information are within a desired tolerance (col. 9, lines 44-56, Fig. 9). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include these steps as taught by Guzelsu. One would have been motivated to do so in order to ensure that the reconciliation is within acceptable tolerance to confirm a correct match.

Claim 35 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Demoff in view of Talati in view of Hogan in view of Guzelsu as applied to claim 32 above, and further in view of Weiss (US 5657388) ("Weiss").

Re claim 35: Demoff does not explicitly teach authenticating including synchronizing a token with a periodically changing non-predictable code, providing the account holder with the token, the token displaying the periodically changing non-predictable code, receiving a code communicated by the buyer, and comparing the received code with the periodically changing non-predictable code to authenticate the buyer as the account holder when the received code matches the periodically changing non-predictable code. Weiss teaches authenticating including synchronizing a token with a periodically changing non-predictable code (col. 1, line 58 - col. 2, line 17), providing the account holder with the token, the token displaying the periodically changing non-predictable code (col. 1, line 58 - col. 2, line 17), receiving a code communicated by the buyer (col. 1, line 58 - col. 2, line 17), and comparing the received code with the periodically changing non-predictable code to authenticate the buyer as the account holder when the received code matches the periodically changing non-predictable code (col. 1, line 58

through col. 2, line 17). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Demoff to include these steps as taught by Weiss. One would have been motivated to do so in order to make the overall system more secure and therefore less prone to fraud and deceit.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed 6/20/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's argument that the proposed modification of Demoff with the Talati changes the principle of operation of Demoff, the test for obviousness is not whether the features of a secondary reference may be bodily incorporated into the structure of the primary reference; nor is it that the claimed invention must be expressly suggested in any one or all of the references. Rather, the test is what the combined teachings of the references would have suggested to those of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981).

Applicant's arguments fail to comply with 37 CFR 1.111(b) because they amount to a general allegation that the claims define a patentable invention without specifically pointing out how the language of the claims patentably distinguishes them from the references.

In response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).



***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Sandberg-Diment teaches verification information for transaction using approval code and transaction details (col. 3, lines 55-67).

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Olabode Akintola whose telephone number is 571-272-3629. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30AM -5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander Kalinowski can be reached on 571-272-6771. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

OA



HANI M. KAZIMI  
PRIMARY EXAMINER